

# The Progressive Electorate

Martin Weinberg – Owner/Publisher  
Po Box 154  
Shannon, AL. 35142

Jeff S. Jordan  
Supervisory Attorney  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E. Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: MUR 6194

*Perdine*  
JUN 15 2009

Dear Mr. Jordan:

*10:40am*

I am writing this letter to serve as an official response to allegations made against myself and my blog *The Progressive Electorate*. I believe these allegations are completely frivolous and without merit. The Progressive Electorate is not a Political Action Committee or a candidate. Contributions that we make and have encouraged others to make are made through ACT Blue and are sent directly to the candidate. The Progressive Electorate is not a conduit for receiving or disbursing any funds.

The Progressive Electorate simply uses Act Blue which is completely in accordance with all FEC law. The Progressive Electorate is not required to register with the FEC as it does not make any direct contributions or expenditures.

Concerning allegations made against Shelia Smoot and her campaign for Congress, those allegations were not sent to the campaign. However, Shelia Smoot on April 21 filed both the Form 1 and Form 2 in compliance with the FEC guidelines. These forms were filed before the candidate reached the \$5,000 threshold which requires a candidate to qualify. The allegations made by Mr Afrika, received by the FEC on May 18, 2009 are completely erroneous and rely upon hearsay of a conversation. Any notion that the campaign has raised money and not reported it is completely unfounded and relies on inaccurate information. The campaign filed accordingly with the FEC guidelines when she became a candidate. According to the instructions provided in Form 2, an individual becomes a candidate and required to fill out Form 2 only once they have reached the \$5,000 threshold.

Furthermore, the complaint lacks specificity in terms of any potential violations that have been alleged. Allegations are made both against Mr. Weinberg and the Smoot Campaign.

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The party served with this complain also request that the FEC require the complaining party to pay the legal fees for this complaint. Stated on the letter that I received with the complaint, this matter is stated to remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C 437 g(a)(4)(B) and 437 g(a)(12)(A). However, I believe that Mr. Afrika has already violated that Federal Law by sending a copy of his complaint to several media outlets in Birmingham, Alabama. I will be happy to provide your office with more information regarding the dissemination of this information, which is clearly in violation of several laws.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and I look forward to the expedited disposition of this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Martin Weinberg

6/8/09

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